

PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A method for detecting delayed Radio Link Protocol frames, and preventing the transmission of unnecessary Negative Acknowledgement messages and data frame retransmissions, comprising the steps of:

buffering an unsequentially received Radio Link Protocol frame; and
withholding the transmission of a Negative Acknowledgment message for a delayed Radio Link Protocol frame until the delayed Radio Link Protocol frame has been missing longer than a predefined time period.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of assigning a timer/counter to the buffered Radio Link Protocol frame for determining the necessity of transmitting a Negative Acknowledgement message for an unreceived Radio Link Protocol frame.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
buffering a Negative Acknowledgement message for an unreceived Radio Link Protocol frame; and

assigning a timer/counter to the buffered Negative Acknowledgement message to prevent unnecessary transmission of the Negative Acknowledgement message if the unreceived Radio Link Protocol frame arrives before the expiration of a predefined time period.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of delaying updating the expected sequence number until a delayed Radio Link Protocol frame has been received.

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5. (Original) A wireless communications device configured to detect delayed Radio Link Protocol frames, and prevent the transmission of unnecessary Negative Acknowledgement messages and data frame retransmissions, comprising:

a processor; and

a storage medium coupled to the processor and containing a set of instructions executable by the processor to buffer an unsequentially received Radio Link Protocol frame; and

withhold the transmission of a Negative Acknowledgement message for a delayed Radio Link Protocol frame until the delayed Radio Link Protocol frame has been missing longer than a predefined time period.

6. (Original) The wireless communications device of claim 5, wherein:

the set of instructions is further executable by the processor to assign a timer/counter to the buffered Radio Link Protocol frame to determine the necessity of transmitting a Negative Acknowledgement message for an unreceived Radio Link Protocol frame.

7. (Original) The wireless communications device of claim 5, wherein:

the set of instructions is further executable by the processor to buffer a Negative Acknowledgement message for an unreceived Radio Link Protocol frame; and

assign a timer/counter to the buffered Negative Acknowledgement message to prevent unnecessary transmission of the Negative Acknowledgement message if the unreceived Radio Link Protocol frame arrives before the expiration of a predefined time period.

8. (Original) The wireless communications device of claim 5, wherein:

the set of instructions is further executable by the processor to delay updating the expected sequence number until a delayed Radio Link Protocol frame has been received.

9. (Original) The wireless communications device of claim 5, wherein:

the device is a base station transceiver.

10. (Original) The wireless communications device of claim 5, wherein:

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the device is a mobile telephone.

11. (Original) The wireless communications device of claim 5, wherein: the device is a data terminal.

12. (New) A wireless apparatus for detecting delayed Radio Link Protocol frames, and preventing the transmission of unnecessary Negative Acknowledgement messages and data frame retransmissions, comprising:

means for buffering an unsequentially received Radio Link Protocol frame; and
means for withholding the transmission of a Negative Acknowledgement message for a delayed Radio Link Protocol frame until the delayed Radio Link Protocol frame has been missing longer than a predefined time period.

13. (New) The wireless apparatus of claim 12 further comprising:
means for assigning a timer/counter to the buffered Radio Link Protocol frame for determining the necessity of transmitting a Negative Acknowledgement message for an unreceived Radio Link Protocol frame.

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